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UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 000910

SIPDIS

Department for IO/SHA -SMEHRA, S/UNR -SGERAN, USUN-MZACK, AF/RSA AND AF/E

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SUBJECT: UN Human Rights Commission: Tanzanian Response on Unmandated Session on Reform

REF: STATE 82967

¶1. This is an action request.

¶2. On May 6, Poloff delivered the demarche on preventing an unmandated session on UNHRC reform to Ambassador Liberata Mulamula, head of the Multilateral Affairs Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador Mulamula said that she would consult with the Tanzanian delegation in Geneva to further inform herself of the rational for convening a working group in Geneva to discuss the Secretary General's proposal to reform the UNHRC.

¶3. Ambassador Mulamula speculated that elements in the Human Rights Commission sought to discuss reform in Geneva because they were frustrated, both with the tendency of UN delegations to overlook human rights issues and with the slow pace of all UN reform in New York. Poloff reiterated that, while the reform process was undoubtedly frustrating, uncoordinated and piecemeal discussions could further complicate the issue without facilitating a resolution.

¶4. Action request: Ambassador Mulamula asked for the US views on Human Rights issues within the Security Council and on the Secretary General's recommendations for reforming the CHR, as contained in his report. Please advise if there is further information that we can share with the Foreign Ministry or with the Tanzanian delegation in Geneva.

OWEN